

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 OPIC-03 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P R 311757Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4800

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PR

SUBJECT: CUNHAL CALLS FOR STRENGTHENING REVOLUTIONARY  
MILITARY LEADERS, WARNS OF COUP

REFS (A) LISBON 6030 DTG 101802Z OCT 75

(B) LISBON 6434 DTG 311425Z OCT 75

1. COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER, ALVARO CUNHAL, SPOKE TO CIVILIAN  
WORKERS OF ARMED FORCES SUPPLY AND REPAIR DEPOT (OMAG)  
IN ALVERCA, OUTSIDE LISBON, OCTOBER 30 (REFTEL A).  
(OMAG MAINTAINS PORTUGUESE AND GERMAN AIR FORCE AND U.S.  
NAVY PLANES). HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

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(A) COUP DANGER: CUNHAL SAID "WE WILL LIVE THROUGH

DANGEROUS DAYS UNTIL NOVEMBER 11" IN CLAIMING THAT REACTION-ARY FORCES ARE SEEKING TO MOUNT COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS IN ANGOLA AND IN PORTUGAL. CUNHAL WARNED THAT DANGEROUS MEN, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE "RIGHT-WING ACTIONS OF SEPT 28, 1974 AND MARCH 11, 1975", AND WHO ARE TRAINED IN COMMANDO AND TERRORIST TACTICS, WERE NOW IN PORTUGAL TO ORGANIZE CLANDESTINE GROUPS OF THE PORTUESE LIBERATION ARMY (ELP) AND THE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PORTUGAL (MDLP). CUNHAL ALSO WARNED THAT EVEN NON-FASCIST FORCES ARE WORKING FOR A RIGHTIST COUP.

(B) IMMEDIATE STEPS: CUNHAL SAID THAT AS A FIRST STEP OUT OF THE CURRENT CRISIS, THE POSITIONS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY MILITARY ON THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MUST BE STRENGTHENED. CUNHAL CALLED AGAIN FOR OUSTER OF THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND THE REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNMENT OF VARIOUS "PROGRESSIVE AND REVOLUTIONARY" TENDENCIES OF THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM). HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE "REVOLUTIONARY COUNTER-OFFENSIVE" AND THE APPEARANCE OF A SOLDIERS' MOVEMENT (READ RADICAL "SOLDIERS UNITED WILL WIN" - SUV) HAD PREVENTED A TURN TO THE RIGHT IN RECENT WEEKS.

(C) LONGER-RANGE MEASURES: CUNHAL SAID THAT "IF WE KNEW HOW TO UNITE", WORKERS WOULD (1) COME TOGETHER; (2) MAINTAIN A CLOSE ALLIANCE WITH THE URBAN AND RURAL PETTY BOURGEOISIE AGAINST LARGE-SCALE CAPITALISTS TO CONSOLIDATE REVOLUTIONARY GAINS. HE SAID THAT THROUGH SUCH ALLIANCES IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO DEFEAT THE ATTEMPTED MOVE TO THE RIGHT, AND ADVANCE THE REVOLUTION TOWARD CONSTRUCTION OF A SOCIALIST SOCIETY.

(D) SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST ALLIANCE: CUNHAL STATED THAT SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) LEADERS ARE MOUNTING ANOTHER ANTI-COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE. HE CLAIMED THAT PCP HAS CONTACTS WITH MANY SOCIALISTS WHO ARE DISSATISFIED WITH PS-PPD ALLIANCE, AND WHO ARE DISPOSED TOWARD AN ALLIANCE WITH THE COMMUNISTS. CUNHAL APPEALED TO SOCIALISTS TO UNITE WITH COMMUNISTS AGAINST THE REACTION. HE SAID THAT TRULY ANTI-FASCIST SOCIALIST WORKERS WOULD BE SHOT ALONG WITH THE COMMUNISTS

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IF A CHILEAN-STYLE COUP WERE TO TAKE PLACE.

2. COMMENT: CUNHAL'S REMARKS PROVIDE AN INSIGHT IN CURRENT PCP SHORT AND MEDIUM-RANGE STRATEGY: SUPPORT AND, IF POSSIBLE, STRENGTHEN THE POSITION OF FRIENDLY MILITARY LEADERS ON THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL; PURSUE THE "UNITED FRONT FROM BELOW" LINE, IN AN EFFORT TO WEAN THE SOCIALIST PARTY BASE AWAY FROM THE SOARES LEADERSHIP. EVIDENTLY

CUNHAL STILL SEES HIS PARTY'S INTERESTS SERVED BEST BY A  
TIGHT ALLIANCE WITH "REVOLUTIONARY" MILITARY OFFICERS,  
COMBINED WITH SUBVERSION OF THE LOWER RANKS.  
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